

Based on the following Amendments and Remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Please ~~amend~~ the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please ~~cancel~~ Claims 1-20, without prejudice, and please ~~add~~ the following new Claims 21-72, as follows:

1.  
-- ~~21~~. An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

a' a memory device for storing information regarding at least one of a job opening, a position, an assignment, a contract, and a project, and information regarding a job search request;

a processing device for processing information regarding the job search request upon a detection of an occurrence of a searching event, wherein the processing device is programmed to detect the occurrence of the

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searching event, wherein the processing device utilizes information regarding the at least one of a job opening, a position, an assignment, a contract, and a project, stored in the memory device, and further wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding at least one of a job opening, a position, an assignment, a contract, and a project, wherein the message is responsive to the job search request; and

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a transmitter for transmitting the message to a communication device associated with an individual, wherein the message is transmitted to the communication device in real-time.

*2.*  
~~22.~~ The apparatus of Claim *21*, wherein the communication device is at least one of a personal computer, a hand-held computer, a palmtop computer, a laptop computer, a personal communication device, a personal digital assistant, a telephone, a digital telephone, a display telephone, a video telephone, a videophone, a 3G telephone, a television, an interactive television, a beeper, a pager, and a watch.

*3.*  
~~23.~~ The apparatus of Claim *21*, wherein the

apparatus is activated automatically upon the occurrence of the searching event.

<sup>4</sup>  
~~24.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the information regarding the at least one of a job opening, a position, an assignment, a contract, and a project, is transmitted to the receiver from a second communication device associated with an employer or hiring entity, and further wherein the information regarding the at least one of a job opening, a position, an assignment, a contract, and a project, is automatically received by the receiver and automatically stored in the memory device.

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<sup>5.</sup>  
~~25.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the information regarding the job search request is transmitted to the receiver from at least one of the communication device and a third communication device associated with the individual, and further wherein the information regarding the job search request is automatically received by the receiver and automatically stored in the memory device.

<sup>6.</sup>  
~~26.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the information regarding the job search request contains at least one of job search information, information regarding

an individual, and information regarding at least one of an individual's resume, an individual's educational qualifications, an individual's work experience, an individual's reference, an individual's work sample, a type of at least one of a job, a work, a project, and an assignment, sought by an individual, and an individual's contact information.

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7.  
27. The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the searching event is at least one of an occurrence of a new job posting by an employer or hiring entity, a posting of new or revised data or information from an individual or group of individuals, a news release of a certain business event, an employment-related event, an economic report, an industry-specific new event, an event which creates an interest by an employer or hiring entity to fill a position, an event which creates an interest by an individual to seek a position, an occurrence of a recruitment initiating event, and a pre-defined or pre-specified at least one of date, time, time interval, and time period.

8.  
28. The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the message

is transmitted as at least one of an electronic message transmission, a telephone call, a telephone message, a facsimile transmission, and a pager message.

<sup>9.</sup>  
~~29.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the message is transmitted as an e-mail message.

<sup>10.</sup>  
~~30.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the message contains at least one of an electronic catalog, text information, video information, and audio information.

<sup>11.</sup>  
~~31.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~21~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the message contains at least one of a hyperlink and a link to at least one of an employer's web site, an employer's web page, information about an employer, a video presentation about an employer, an employer's department, a video or photograph of an employer's facilities, information regarding a certain employee or employees, a job description, at least one of a benefit, a financial, and an operational, data or information, salary information, a travel-related service entity, a travel agent, and an information source regarding a locale or area where an employer is located.

<sup>12.</sup>  
~~32.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>1</sup>~~21~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and a wireless communication network.

<sup>13.</sup>  
~~33.~~ An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

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a memory device for storing information regarding at least one individual available for at least one of applying for and interviewing for at least one of a job, a job opportunity, and a hiring need, of an employer or hiring entity, and information regarding a recruitment search request associated with an employer or hiring entity;

a processing device for processing information regarding the recruitment search request upon a detection of an occurrence of a searching event, wherein the processing device is programmed to detect the occurrence of the searching event, wherein the processing device utilizes information regarding the at least one individual stored in the memory device, and further wherein the processing device generates a message containing information regarding

the at least one individual, wherein the message is responsive to the recruitment search request; and

a transmitter for transmitting the message to a communication device associated with the employer or hiring entity, wherein the message is transmitted to the communication device in real-time.

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<sup>14.</sup>  
~~34.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the communication device is at least one of a personal computer, a hand-held computer, a palmtop computer, a laptop computer, a personal communication device, a personal digital assistant, a telephone, a digital telephone, a display telephone, a video telephone, a videophone, a 3G telephone, a television, an interactive television, a beeper, a pager, and a watch.

<sup>15.</sup>  
~~35.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the apparatus is activated automatically upon the occurrence of the searching event.

<sup>16.</sup>  
~~36.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the information regarding the at least one individual available for at least one of applying for and interviewing for at

least one of a job, a job opportunity, and a hiring need, is transmitted to the receiver from a second communication device associated with the at least one individual, and further wherein the information regarding the at least one individual available for at least one of applying for and interviewing for at least one of a job, a job opportunity, and a hiring need, is automatically received by the receiver and automatically stored in the memory device.

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<sup>17.</sup>  
~~37.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the apparatus is a computer associated with at least one of the employer or hiring entity and a recruiter.

<sup>18.</sup>  
~~38.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the information regarding the recruitment search request contains at least one of information regarding at least one of a job opening, a project opening, a freelance assignment, and a temporary assignment, information regarding a credential required for the at least one of a job opening, a project opening, a freelance assignment, and a temporary assignment, information about the employer or hiring entity, a firm resume, a salary structure, a benefits package, a firm qualification, a firm reference, and a work sample.



<sup>19.</sup>  
~~39.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the searching event is at least one of an occurrence of a new job posting by an employer or hiring entity, a posting of new or revised data or information from an individual or group of individuals, a news release of a certain business event, an employment-related event, an economic report, an industry-specific new event, an event which creates an interest by an employer to fill a position, an event which creates an interest by an individual to seek a position, an occurrence of a recruitment initiating event, and a pre-defined or pre-specified at least one of date, time, time interval, and time period.

<sup>20.</sup>  
~~40.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the message is transmitted as at least one an electronic message transmission, a telephone call, a telephone message, a facsimile transmission, and a pager message.

<sup>21.</sup>  
~~41.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the message is transmitted as an e-mail message.

<sup>22.</sup>  
~~42.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the message

contains at least one of an electronic catalog, text information, video information, and audio information.

<sup>23.</sup>  
~~43.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the message contains at least one of a hyperlink and a link to at least one of an individual's reference, an individual's letter of recommendation, a link to at least one of a college, a university, and a school, attended by an individual, a pre-authorized request form for a transcript from a school attended by an individual, a registrar's office of an individual's school, a past employer, a work sample, a video presentation or a video clip of an individual, and a photograph of the individual.

<sup>24.</sup>  
~~44.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~33~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and a wireless communication network.

<sup>25.</sup>  
~~45.~~ An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

a memory device for storing at least one of work

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schedule information and scheduling information for at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer;

a receiver for receiving a first request, wherein the first request contains information regarding a request to obtain at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, wherein the first request is received from a first communication device associated with an employer or hiring entity;

a processing device for processing information contained in the first request, wherein the processing device generates a first message containing the at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer; and

a transmitter for transmitting the first message to the first communication device,

wherein the receiver receives a second request,

wherein the second request contains information for at least one of reserving, engaging, and requesting, the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, wherein at least one of the processing device processes the information contained in the second request and at least one of reserves, engages, and requests, the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, the processing device generates a second message containing information regarding the second request, and the transmitter transmits a second message containing information regarding the second request to a second communication device associated with the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

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<sup>26.</sup>  
~~46.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the memory device stores at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for a plurality of at least one of individuals, independent contractors, temporary workers, and freelancers.

<sup>27.</sup>  
~~47.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the

136

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processing devices processes information regarding a search to identify the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>28.</sup>  
~~48.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the second request contains information regarding an amount the employer or hiring entity is willing to pay the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>29.</sup>  
~~49.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the receiver receives a reply message transmitted from the second communication device, wherein the reply message contains information regarding at least one of a confirmation of the reservation, an agreement to the engagement, and a reply to the request, wherein the transmitter transmits a second reply message to the first communication device, wherein the second reply message contains information regarding at least one of the confirmed reservation, the confirmed agreement to the engagement, and the reply to the request.

<sup>30.</sup>  
~~50.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the

apparatus is programmed to at least one of confirm the reservation, agree to an engagement, and issue a reply, for or one behalf of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>31.</sup>  
~~51.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the

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apparatus is programmed to provide information regarding at least one of a condition under which the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, will agree to at least one of a reservation, an engagement, and a request, a payment in advance, a down payment, and an option payment, regarding the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>32.</sup>  
~~52.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the

apparatus processes information for allowing the employer or hiring entity to purchase an option for the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>33.</sup>  
~~53.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>~~45~~, wherein the

apparatus at least one of makes a payment or transfer from a financial account associated with the employer or hiring entity, receives a payment for a financial account associated with the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, and administers a financial account for at least one of the employer or hiring entity and the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

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<sup>34.</sup>  
~~54.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>  
~~45~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet and the World Wide Web.

<sup>35.</sup>  
~~55.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>  
~~45~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized with a wireless communication network.

<sup>36.</sup>  
~~56.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>25</sup>  
~~45~~, wherein the apparatus processes information regarding a bidding activity for services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

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~~57.~~

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The apparatus of Claim ~~45~~, wherein at least one of the first communication device and the second communication device is at least one of a personal computer, a hand-held computer, a palmtop computer, a laptop computer, a personal communication device, a personal digital assistant, a telephone, a digital telephone, a display telephone, a video telephone, a videophone, a 3G telephone, a television, an interactive television, a beeper, a pager, and a watch.

~~38.~~  
~~58.~~

An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

a memory device for storing at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for an employer or hiring entity;

a receiver for receiving a first request, wherein the first request is a request to obtain at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for the employer or hiring entity, wherein the first request is received from a first communication device associated with at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer;

140

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a processing device for processing information contained in the first request, wherein the processing device generates a first message containing the at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for the employer or hiring entity; and

a transmitter for transmitting the first message to the first communication device,

wherein the receiver receives a second request, wherein the second request contains information regarding an offer to provide the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, to the employer or hiring entity, wherein at least one of the processing device processes the information contained in the second request and at least one of accepts or rejects the offer, the processing device generates a second message containing information regarding the offer, and the transmitter transmits a second message containing information regarding the offer to a second communication device associated with the employer or hiring entity.

<sup>39.</sup>  
~~59.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>38</sup>~~58~~, wherein the

memory device stores at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information for a plurality of employers or hiring entities, wherein the at least one of work schedule information and scheduling information contains information regarding at least one of a date and a time when the employer or hiring entity will be in need of a service capable of being provided by the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

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<sup>40.</sup>  
~~60.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>38</sup>~~58~~, wherein the

processing devices processes information regarding a search to identify the employer or hiring entity.

<sup>41.</sup>  
~~61.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>38</sup>~~58~~, wherein the

second request contains information regarding a fee or charge for the services of the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

<sup>42.</sup>  
~~62.~~ The apparatus of Claim <sup>38</sup>~~58~~, wherein the

receiver receives a reply message transmitted from the second communication device, wherein the reply message

142

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contains information regarding an acceptance of the offer or a rejection of the offer, wherein the transmitter transmits a second reply message to the first communication device, wherein the second reply message contains information regarding the acceptance of the offer or the rejection of the offer.

*43.* <sup>38</sup>  
~~63.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus is programmed to at least one of accept the offer or reject the offer for or on behalf of the employer or hiring entity.

*44.* <sup>38</sup>  
~~64.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus is programmed to provide information regarding at least one of a condition under which the employer or hiring entity will accept an offer, a reply, and a bond or a guarantee that a service will be performed.

*45.* <sup>38</sup>  
~~65.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus processes information for allowing the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, to purchase an option for at least one of a job, a position, a project, and an assignment, with the employer or hiring entity.

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~~66.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus at least one of makes a payment or transfer from a financial account associated with the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer, receives a payment for a financial account associated with the employer or hiring entity, and administers a financial account for the employer or hiring entity.

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~~67.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized on or over at least one of the Internet and the World Wide Web.

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~~68.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus is utilized with a wireless communication network.

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~~69.~~ The apparatus of Claim ~~58~~, wherein the apparatus processes information regarding an auctioning activity for a service provided by the at least one of an individual, an independent contractor, a temporary worker, and a freelancer.

144

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76. The apparatus of Claim 58, wherein at least

one of the first communication device and the second communication device is at least one of a personal computer, a hand-held computer, a palmtop computer, a laptop computer, a personal communication device, a personal digital assistant, a telephone, a digital telephone, a display telephone, a video telephone, a videophone, a 3G telephone, a television, an interactive television, a beeper, a pager, and a watch.

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~~71.~~ An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

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a memory device for storing at least one of recruitment information, recruitment related information, job search information, individual information, and information regarding at least one of a job opening and an employment opportunity posted by an employer or hiring entity;

a receiver for receiving a job search request from a first communication device associated with an individual, wherein the job search request is automatically received by the receiver in real-time;

145

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a processing device for processing the job search request utilizing information stored in the memory device, wherein the processing device generates a search report message containing information regarding at least one of a job opening and an employment opportunity; and

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m4 a transmitter for transmitting the search report message to at least one of the first communication device and a second communication device associated with the individual,

wherein the receiver receives a response to the search report message, wherein the processing device processes information contained in the response and determines whether the individual is interested or not interested in applying for the at least one of a job opening and an employment opportunity, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits a message to a third communication device associated with an employer or hiring entity associated with the at least one of a job opening and an employment opportunity, wherein the processing device stores information regarding the individual's interest in or disinterest with the at least

146

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one of a job opening and an employment opportunity in the memory device, and further wherein the processing device stores information regarding at least one of an interview process, an employment screening process, and a recruitment process, involving the individual and the employer or hiring entity, in the memory device, wherein the information regarding the at least one of an interview process, an employment screening process, and a recruitment process, includes information regarding at least one of a deal reached between the individual and the employer or hiring entity, an offer, a counteroffer, a rejected offer, a rejected counteroffer, at least one of a time and a date of a consideration, and a note made by at least one of the individual and the employer or hiring entity.

52.  
72. An apparatus for providing recruitment information, comprising:

a memory device for storing at least one of recruitment information, recruitment related information, job search information, and information regarding at least one of an individual and an independent contractor;

a receiver for receiving an employee or independent contractor search request from a first communication device associated with an employer or hiring entity, wherein the employee or independent contractor search request is automatically received by the receiver in real-time;

a processing device for processing the employee or independent contractor search request utilizing information stored in the memory device, wherein the processing device generates a search report message containing information regarding at least one of an individual and an independent contractor; and

a transmitter for transmitting the search report message to at least one of the first communication device and a second communication device associated with the employer or hiring entity,

wherein the receiver receives a response to the search report message, wherein the processing device processes information contained in the response and determines whether the employer or hiring entity is



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interested in or not interested in the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits a message to a third communication device associated with the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor and records an employer's or hiring entity's interest or disinterest in the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor, and further wherein the processing device stores information regarding at least one of an interview process, an employment screening process, and a recruitment process, involving the employer or hiring entity and the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor, in the memory device, wherein the information regarding the at least one of an interview process, an employment screening process, and a recruitment process, includes information regarding at least one of a deal reached between the employer or hiring entity and the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor, an offer, a counteroffer, a rejected offer, a rejected counteroffer, at least one of a time and a date of a consideration, and a note made by at least one of the employer or hiring entity and the at least one of an individual and an independent contractor. --

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